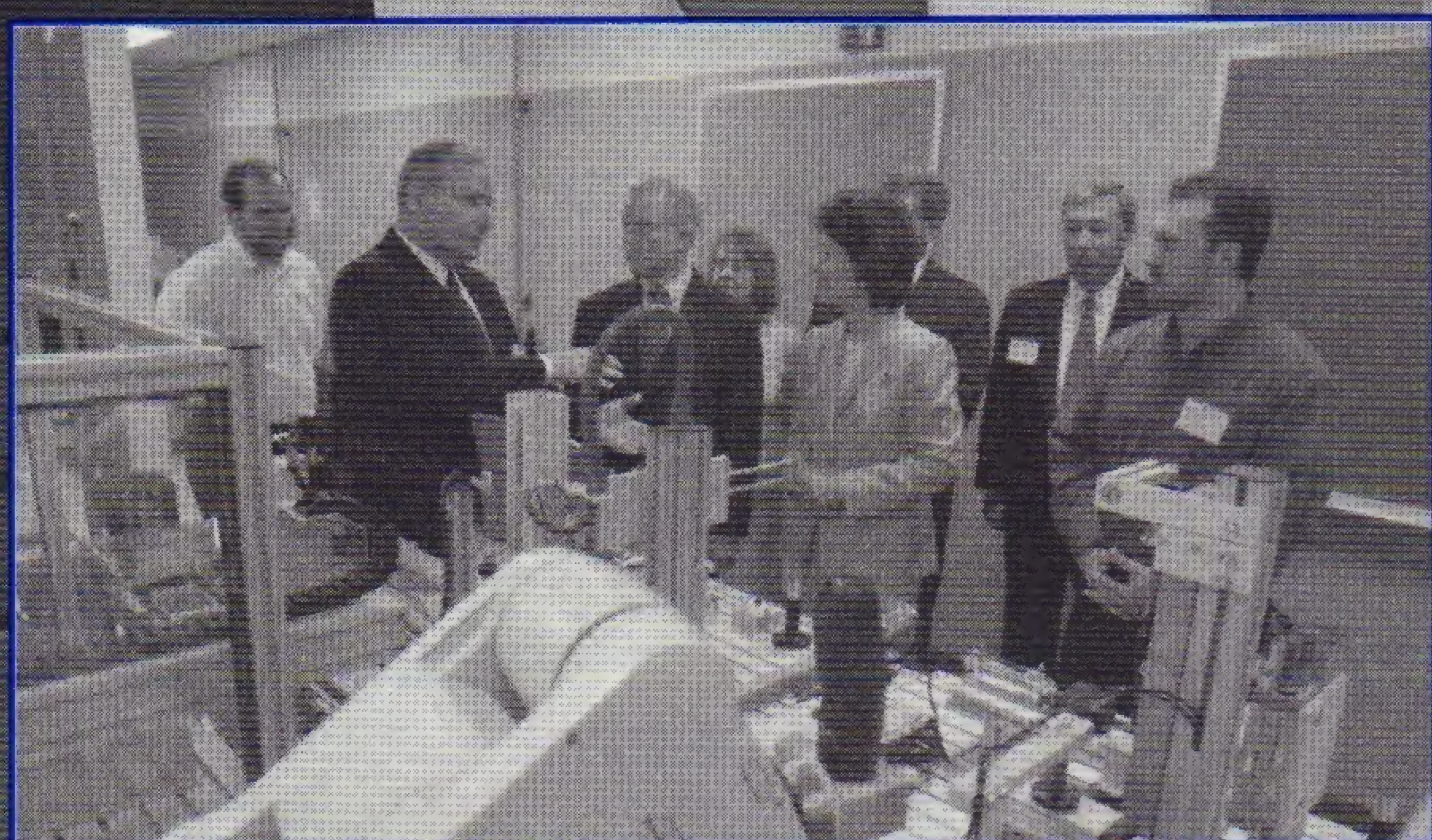
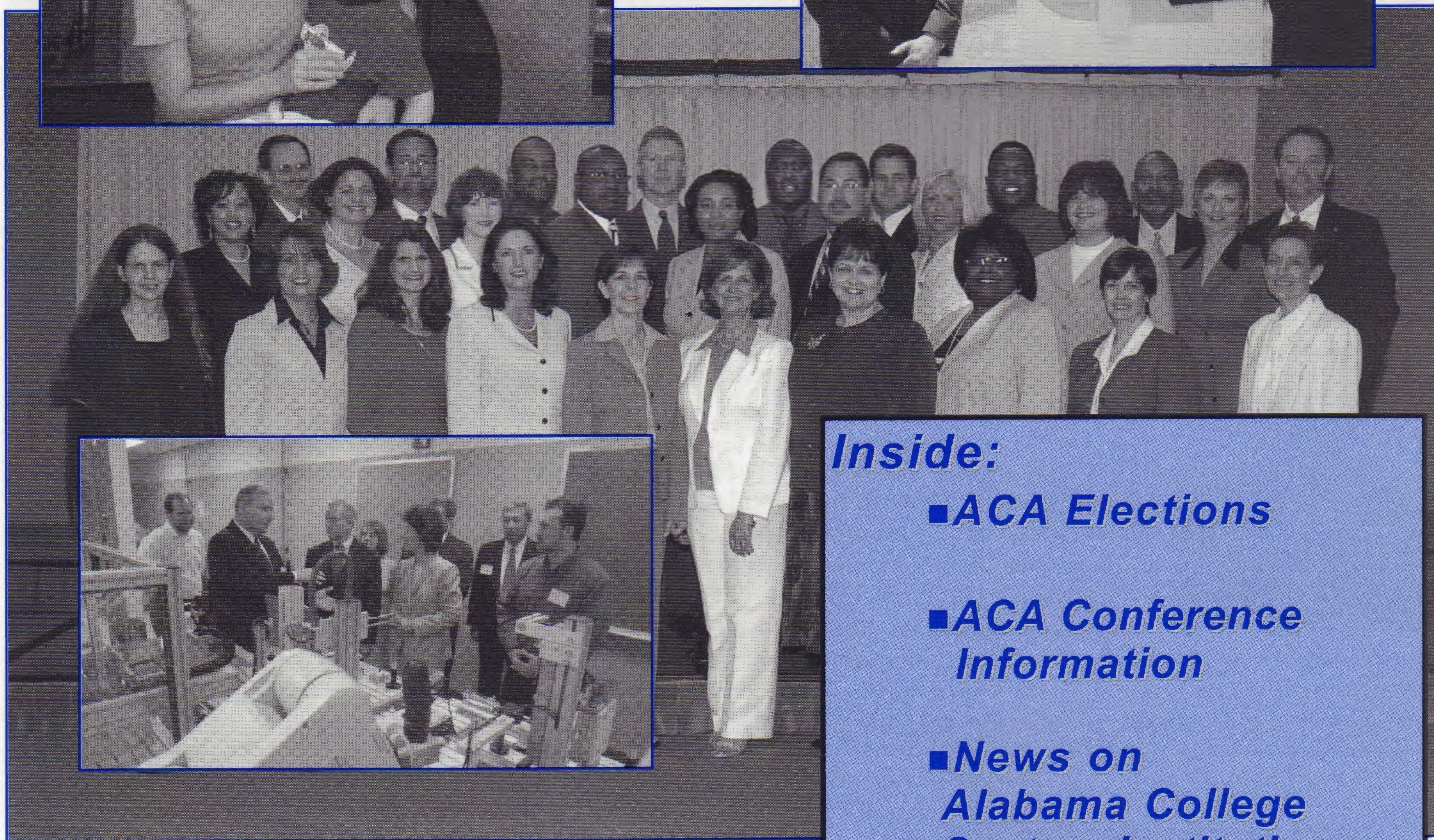
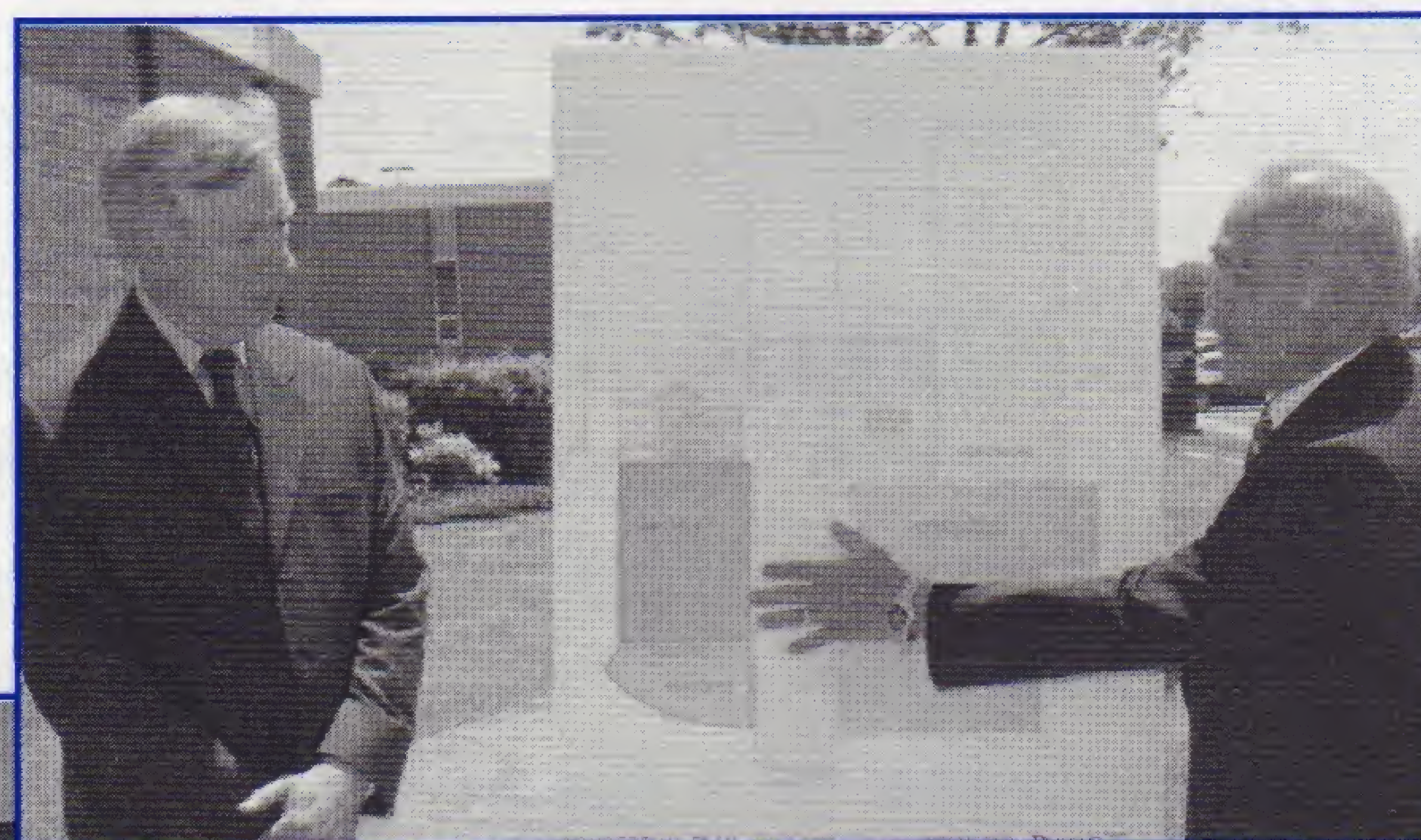
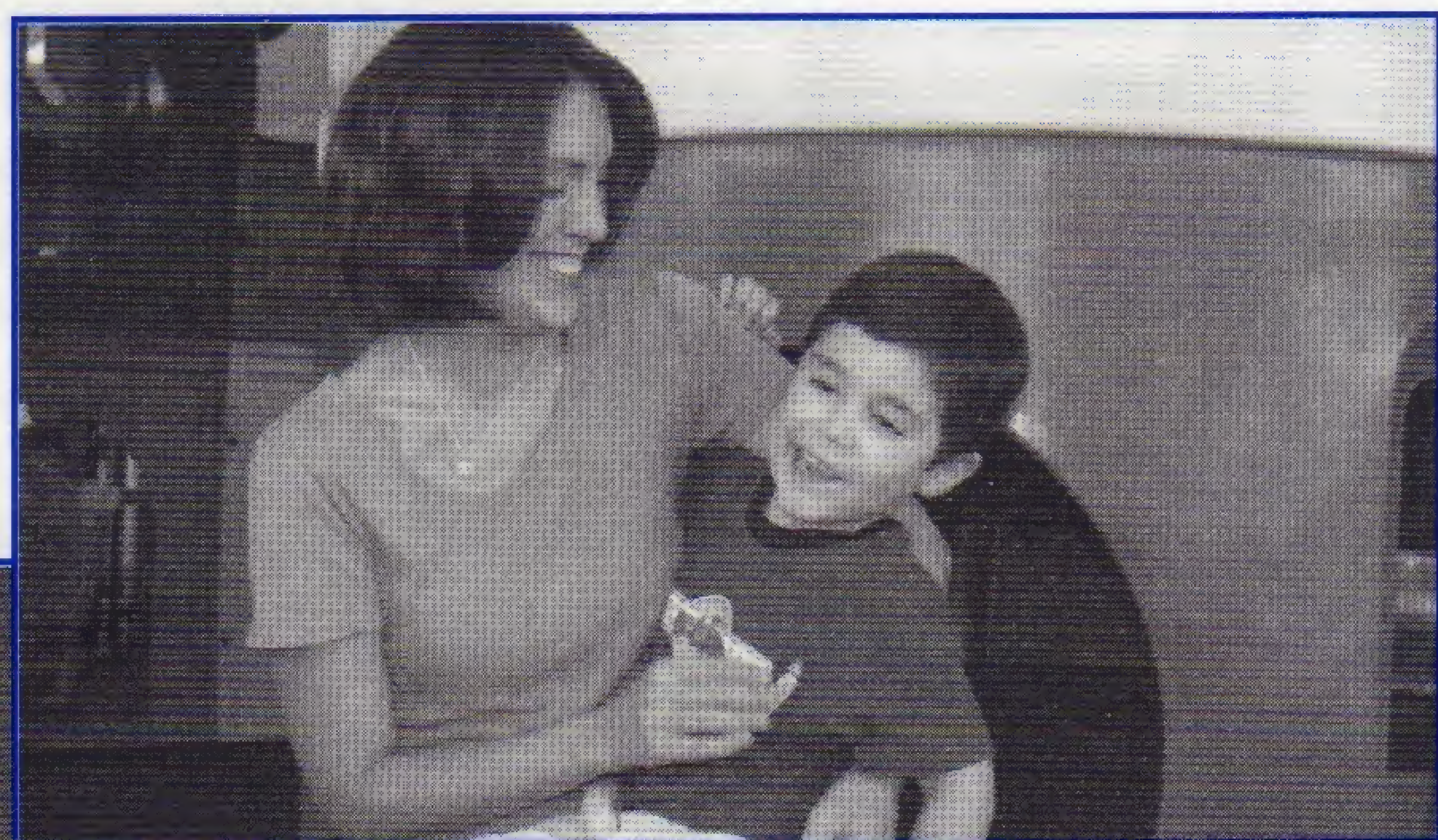


# The Alabama College Association Journal

Volume 21 No. 2

Summer 2005



## *Inside:*

- *ACA Elections*
- *ACA Conference Information*
- *News on Alabama College System Institutions*

*2005 Alabama Community College Leadership Academy Graduates*

***Enriching Lives by Expanding Opportunities***



# ACA Elections

*Ballots for the positions of Second Vice-President and Treasurer for the Alabama College Association will soon be distributed to ACA member institutions.*

## Treasurer

Ben Jordan, Southern Union State Community College

## Second Vice-President

Dr. Bruce Crawford, Lawson State Community College

Dr. Anthony Molina, Trenholm State Technical College

*Election results will be announced at the annual ACA conference in November.*

## Candidate Information — Treasurer



**Ben Jordan** is the Business Manager at Southern Union State Community College, a position that he has held for nine years. Prior to assuming this position, Jordan served as a full-time instructor at the College for three years. Jordan also worked in public accounting before joining the Southern Union staff.

Jordan's educational background includes an A.S. from Southern Union State Community College, a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from the University of Alabama, and a Master's in Business Administration from Auburn University. Jordan also has a license as a State of Alabama Certified Public Accountant.

Jordan's activities at Southern Union include being a standing member of the college administrative council, chairing the college judiciary committee, serving on the college steering committee for SACS reaffirmation, and serving as Phi Theta Kappa advisor. He is completing a two-year term as the treasurer of the Alabama College Association, and is currently the treasurer of the Central Alabama Skills Training Consortium. Jordan is also active in numerous civic and professional groups.

# Alabama College Association



## Candidate Information — Second Vice-President



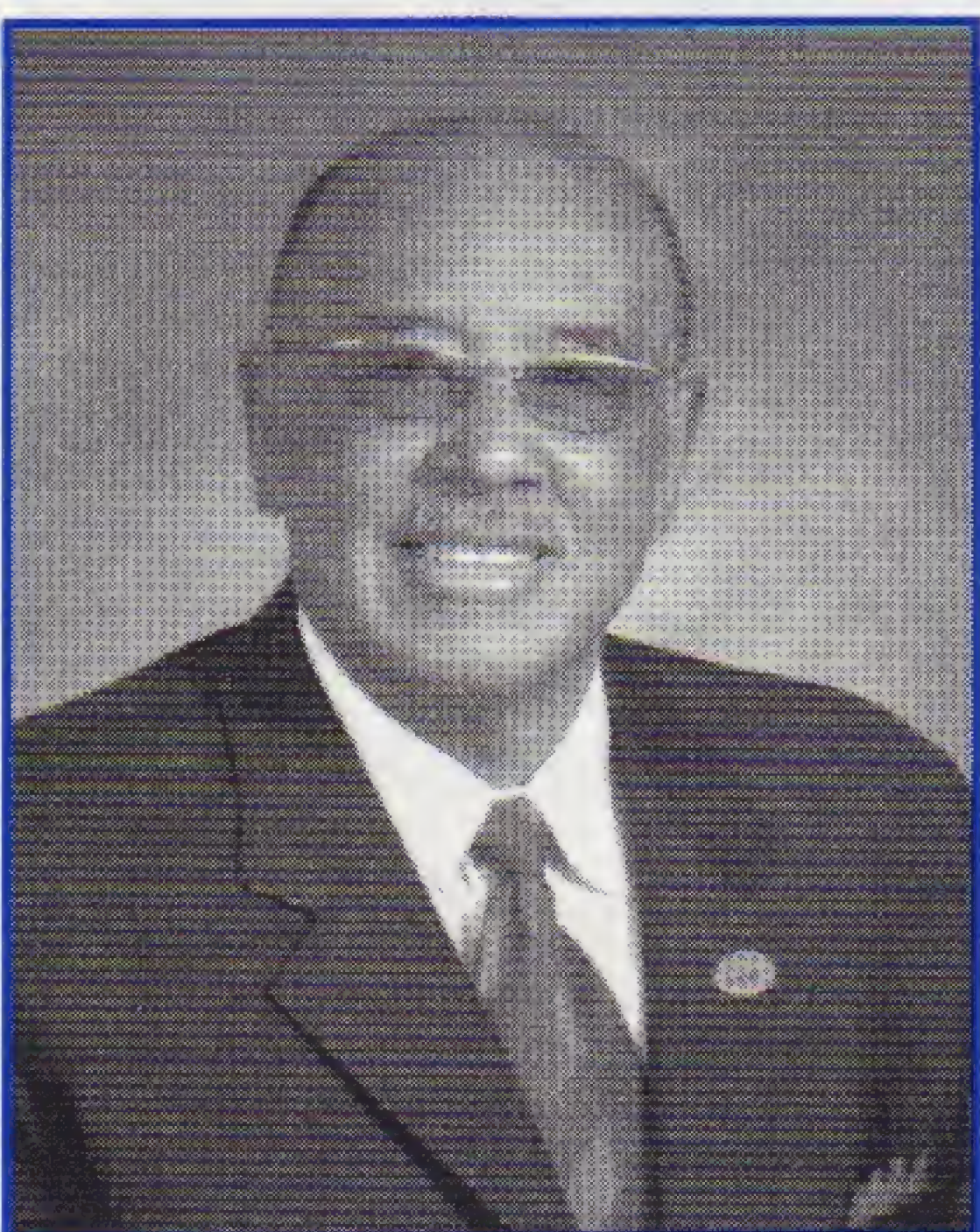
**Bruce Crawford, Ph.D.**, has approximately twenty-seven years of experience in curriculum and instruction in secondary education (14 years), postsecondary education (5 years), and higher education (8 years). Dr. Crawford currently serves as the vice president of instructional services at Lawson State Community College. Within the Alabama College System, Dr. Crawford serves as the ACA vice chair for the Commission on Administration, secretary of the Instructional Officers Association, and is an active participant on a number of college and state-wide committees.

Since Dr. Crawford has been at Lawson State, he has received nearly of \$2,000,000 in grants in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)-related projects from National Aeronautics Space and Administration (NASA) and National Science Foundation (NSF). The projects include: Girls Leading Others By Example (GLOBE) which targets female and STEM careers; Alcanzandos Metas (Achieving Destinations) which targets Hispanic students and STEM careers; and a dual enrollment program for high school students interested in STEM careers. The most recently (June 2005) awarded grant is from the National Science Foundation which has a value nearly 1.3 million dollars to work with increasing minority students entering into STEM careers over a period of five years.

Prior to Lawson State, Dr. Crawford served as chairperson of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at Alabama A&M University where he successfully submitted a number of proposals for grants and contracts to the U.S. Department of Education and the Department of Defense. Through established partnerships with local institutions and the University, he was instrumental in the University receiving more than four million dollars in funding. Most recently, Dr. Crawford served as a reader for the United States Department of Education 2005 Grant Competition for GEAR-UP.

Dr. Crawford holds a baccalaureate degree from Stillman College in mathematics, a master's degree from the University of Alabama in mathematics education, and a doctorate of philosophy degree from Kansas State University in curriculum and instruction with an emphasis in educational technology and computer education.

Community and civic involvements are numerous: member of the Board of Directors for the Greater Birmingham Chapter of Big Brothers Big Sisters, the district director for Alabama Association of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; member of the Alabama State Department of Education Screening Committee for the National Board Certification process (NBPTS), member Board of Directors for the Delta Theta Lambda Education Foundation; and member of Kappa Delta Pi and Phi Delta Kappa professional honor societies.



**Anthony L. Molina, Ph.D.** is president of H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College. Dr. Molina received his Ph.D. from Louisiana State University, his M.A. in Speech from Miami University in Ohio, his B.S. in Speech Education from New York University, and his A.A. in Liberal Arts from Epiphany Apostolic College in Newburgh, New York. Dr. Molina is also a graduate of the Executive Leadership Institute of the League of Innovation in the Community College, class of 2000.

He has served as president of Trenholm State since 2001. Before that he served as Dean of Instruction and Co-Director of Institutional Effectiveness at Jefferson Davis Community College, and as Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at Southern University at Shreveport-Bossier in Louisiana.

At Delgado Community College in New Orleans, Dr. Molina served as Dean for Technology Administration and Development and Director of Carl Perkins Funds; Assistant Dean of Academic Services and Director of Tech Prep; Assistant to the Dean; Director of the Night School; and Director of JTPA Summer Youth Programs.

Dr. Molina's experience has also included being the Director of Programs and Area Supervisor of Adult Education with New Orleans Regional Service Center of the Louisiana State Department of Education, the Adult Basic Education Coordinator at Essex County College in Newark, and as Communications Instructor at Rutgers University.

Dr. Molina is a member of several professional and civic organizations. He is a Board member of the Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce, the Metro YMCA, the Cleveland Avenue YMCA, the Montgomery County Partners in Education, the St. Jude Educational Institute and Partners in Education, the C.I.T.Y. Skills Consortium, and is a trustee of the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts.

In addition, he is a member of the American Association of Community Colleges; the Alabama College System Presidents Association; the Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce; the I-65 Corridor and West Montgomery Development Committee; the Montgomery Public School Career/Tech Advisory Board; the State Planning Council Workforce Development; the Advisory Committee - Montgomery Area Job Corps; a Sunday School Superintendent at Freewill Missionary Baptist Church; Leadership Montgomery; and a former board member for the River Region United Way.



## Athens State Univeristy's College of Education Earns an "A"

The Athens State University College of Education received a top ranking for its teacher preparation programs in a statewide report card issued by the Alabama Department of Education recently.

The Alabama Teacher Preparation Program Performance Profile used a series of quality indicators to determine whether teacher education programs were meeting standards developed under the Alabama Professional Education Personnel Evaluation (PEPE). Teacher education programs at every state university were evaluated. Athens State University programs were all rated "A."

"The 'A' results are due to changes in requirements and additions in the number of weeks of clinical experiences in P-12 classrooms and the use of LiveText software as a tool for better PEPE preparation of our teacher candidates," said **Dr. Debra Baird**, dean of the College of Education. "Most of all, the faculty of the College of Education appreciates the support and effort of the P-12 schools as partners in our clinical experiences. We could not train teachers without the classroom teachers who help us and we certainly could not have earned this excellent grade without them."

Teacher education programs were rated on several indicators. Among the most important measures studied were performance reviews of new graduates, the local school system's satisfaction with the teacher, and the graduate's satisfaction with the university's teacher education program.

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## Trenholm Tech Holds Ribbon Cutting

Employees of Trenholm State Technical College recently hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Lucious W. Smiley Administration and Classroom Building. The ceremony was held April 6.

The Administration and Classroom Building is named after Trenholms Tech's first president. **Dr. Portia Trenholm Hamlar**, the daughter of **H. Council Trenholm** was among the dignitaries attending the ceremonies. Other dignitaries attending included **Ella Bell**, of the Alabama State Board of Education, District 5; **Joan Davis**, with the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education; **Marielle Smiley-Munnerlyn**, representing the family of Dr. Smiley; and **Mr. Michael Bridell**, executive assistant to Montgomery Mayor Bobby Bright.

## Reid State Dedicates Busby Memorial Classroom

A dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony was held April 29 at Reid State Technical College to dedicate the Stanley G. Busby Memorial Multipurpose Classroom.

**Stanley Busby** began his career as a truck driver in 1966 as an employee of Poole Truck Line where he was employed for 20 years. His honors at Poole included a 10, 12, 14, and 15 year safety award. He was a member of the Poole/Landstar Hall of Fame for his one million accident free miles on the road driving.

Following his employment at Poole, Mr. Busby was a truck driving and Commercial Driver's License instructor at Reid State until his retirement in 1996. During his 30 years as a driver and instructor, Busby dedicated his life to the profession he loved and shared his knowledge with others on the road and in the classroom.



*RSTC President Dr. Douglas Little presents a plaque to Mrs. Stanley G. Busby in memory of her husband.*



## Central Alabama Begins New Developmental Math Classes

Central Alabama Community College recently ushered in a new method of delivery for developmental math course instruction. After a year studying the various methods of teaching developmental math, the I CAN Learn® software program was purchased to ensure that developmental math students have an opportunity for the best possible learning experiences.

Since arriving on campus last fall, the ICL labs have literally been buzzing with activity. First, sounds of construction and the shuffling in of equipment were heard as labs were constructed.

Next, came training sessions for all full-time and adjunct math faculty. Faculty learned the procedures of working with students in this new program. Then, the students arrived. Instructors introduced how the ICL program would work. Talk of authentication codes, passwords, books, headphones, and computers filled the labs.

What do the students say? With much anticipation, students and faculty have anxiously awaited the results of the inaugural student surveys for the I CAN Learn® math program. Early indications show that students at CACC are sending a resounding approval of the computer lab format for math instruction. Although the effectiveness of this program has yet to be determined, the initial findings for measures of retention for success in MTH 112 are promising.

## CALHOUN COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO REINSTATE ATHLETICS



*Jim Morrill*



*Dr. Nancy Keenum*

Calhoun Community College President **Dr. Marilyn Beck** has announced the reinstatement of the college's athletics program, effective immediately. "We will start our program with baseball and women's fast-pitch softball teams this fall, with plans to add men's and women's basketball next year," stated Beck. "We are definitely on the fast track in the recruiting area with our teams," she added.

"Calhoun has a long and very successful legacy in the area of athletics, and I am extremely pleased with the decision by Dr. Beck and the Calhoun administration to bring the program back to the college," commented Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education Chancellor **Dr. Roy Johnson**.

Along with the announcement to reinstate the program, Beck also announced the addition of **Jim Morrill** as the new head baseball coach and the re-naming of Calhoun veteran coach **Dr. Nancy Keenum** as the women's softball coach.

Morrill comes to Calhoun from Jefferson Davis Community College, where he has served as head baseball coach since 2003. A graduate of Furman University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Health and Exercise Science (he played as a four-year starter on the school's baseball team), Morrill also holds a master's degree in Speech/Communications from the University of Louisiana at Monroe. In addition to his tenure at Jeff Davis, he has held coaching positions at Appalachian University and Erskine College.

A member of the first women's basketball team to be awarded scholarships at Calhoun Community College, Dr. Keenum has enjoyed a long and very successful career of coaching at Calhoun. In addition to serving as the college's last women's softball coach, she also coached tennis and women's basketball and served a short stint as Calhoun's athletic director. A graduate of Calhoun, Dr. Keenum holds a bachelor's degree from The University of Alabama, a master's from the University of North Alabama, and an Ed.D. from Nova Southeastern University.



# Enriching Lives

## Single Mother Fund Makes Impact at WCC

**Amanda Holland** never imagined she would be raising her son alone, but divorce shattered her dream of being a stay-at-home mom. Now, the 30-year-old Dothan woman is working toward an associate degree at Wallace Community College thanks to SunSouth Bank.

Earlier this year, the locally owned and operated financial institution set up the SunSouth Bank Single Mother Education Fund in partnership with Wallace. Holland, who plans to become a radiological technologist, was one of ten women to receive \$500 awards to help with tuition, fees and/or books. In all, 31 single parents applied for the assistance.

"Attending classes, raising my son Marco and barely making a living has been challenging," Holland said. "The financial assistance has really encouraged me. Last semester, instead of taking one class, I was able to take three.

In addition to maintaining a 3.6 GPA, Holland was also recently

inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa honor society and named to the National Dean's List and Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. She credits the program with her success.

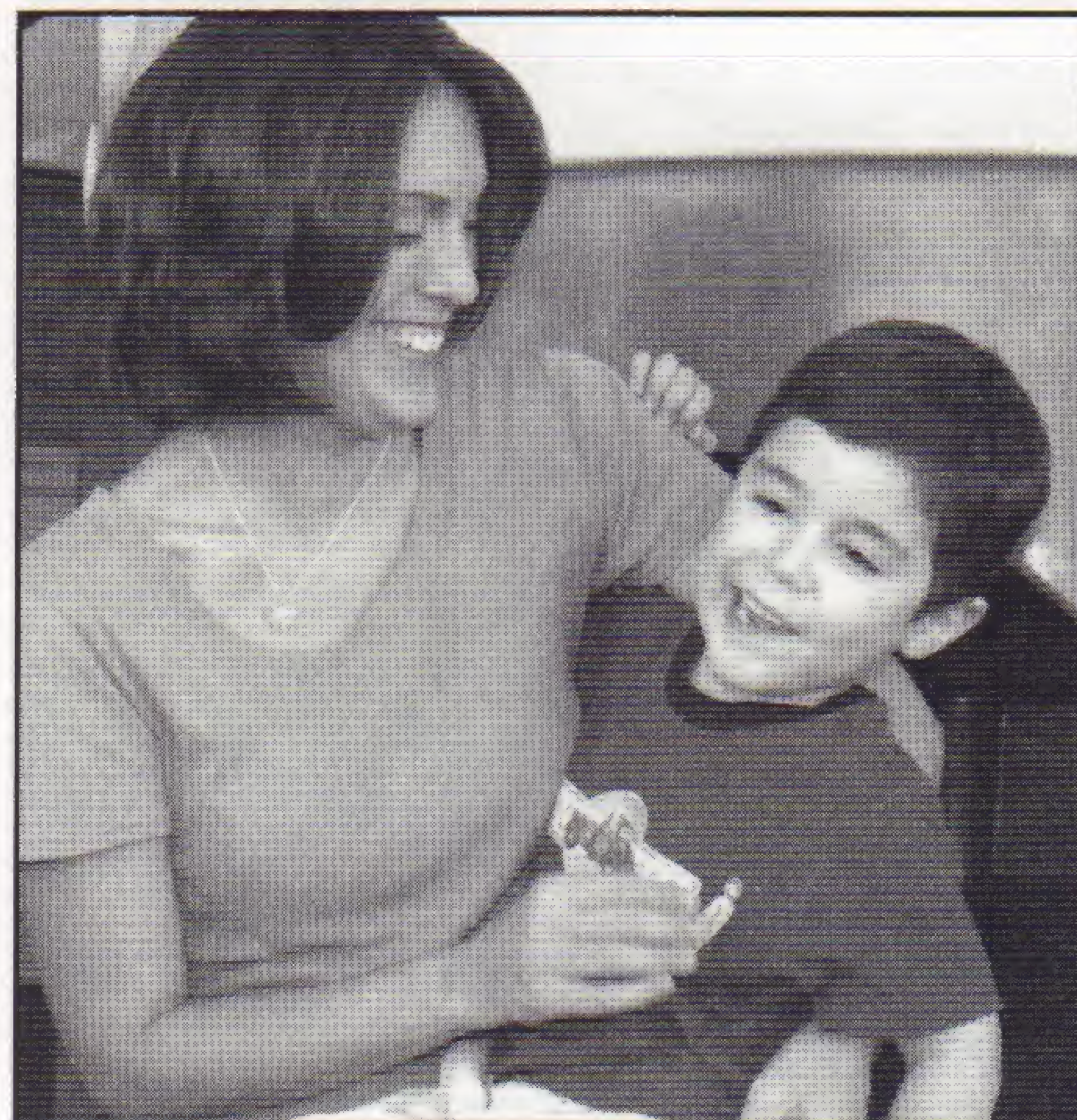
Like Holland, other recipients are also excelling in their courses of study, which range from nursing to child development. The group collectively averages a 3.0 GPA.

SunSouth Chairman and CEO **Guy Medley** said he is inspired by the personal impact of the program. "It is emotional to know what these ladies are going through," Medley reflected.

**Peggy Baker**, WCC administrative assistant to the dean of institutional advancement, said the financial assistance fills a tremendous need. In the past, the federal government has offered aid for displaced homemakers and single parents attending college, but Baker said the funding dried up in the late 1990s. The bank plans to provide five more awards in the fall and five

next spring. Applicants must be single mothers with a demonstrated financial need and a GPA of 2.5 or higher.

While returning to college has not been easy for Holland, she now has a new outlook for her future. "In the long run, I'll be able to provide better for Marco, and I'll set an example for him," Holland remarked proudly. "When he gets older and sees me graduate, that will be one of the best days of my life!"



Wallace Community College student Amanda Holland and her 4-year-old son Marco.

## CVCC's Learning Community Focuses on Harlem Renaissance

The faculty at Chattahoochee Valley Community College continues to be innovative and creative in how they present Learning Communities to students. The Learning Communities are sets or pairs of classes that focus on one main theme that is then coupled with special presentations and speakers. This year the focus was "The Harlem Renaissance."

Events, which were open to the students and the community, included a discussion with **Craig Lloyd**, author of *Eugene Bullard: Black Expatriate in Jazz Age Paris*. Lloyd's book was the 2005 selection for the "Valley Reads" project sponsored by the Chattahoochee Valley Regional Library System. In addition, a lecture was given by **William Greaves**, one of America's most respected independent documentary filmmakers. Greaves produced the highly praised PBS special, "Ralph Bunche: an American Odyssey." Greaves is also a member of the Black Filmmakers Hall of Fame.

Faculty members are already planning the upcoming academic year's Learning Communities focus: "Reading the River." Over the course of the year, the college will examine the importance of the river and its surrounding nature from the viewpoint of different academic disciplines.



# Expanding Opportunities

## GSCC to Receive Funds for New Instructional Site

State Representative **Richard Lindsey** (D-Centre) announced that Gadsden State Community College will receive \$5.5 million to build a new GSCC Center in Cherokee County.

Lindsey, working with **Governor Bob Riley**, has obtained these funds through a bond issue. Representative Lindsey stated that the new site will be a positive step for education and workforce development in the county. "I am pleased to have worked with **Governor Bob Riley**, **Chancellor Roy Johnson** and **Dr. Renée Culverhouse** on this innovative project."

Culverhouse, president of GSCC stated, "The new facility will allow us to expand our course offerings and services to Cherokee County residents." The new Center will offer nursing, allied health, general academic course offerings as well as workforce development, Training for Business, and Industry and a satellite Alabama Technology Network linkage. Gadsden State currently offers classes at the GSCC Cherokee County Center which is located on the East Bypass.

The next step for GSCC officials is to finalize site selection and land acquisition. College officials will continue to work with the architectural firm of Jenkins, Munroe, Jenkins to finalize facility design and specifications. According to architectural estimates the construction phase will take approximately 18-24 months.

## NACC Chorus Members Perform at Carnegie Hall

For the ninth time since 1990, members of the Northeast Alabama Community College Chorus joined singers from across the United States for a Memorial Day concert in historic Carnegie Hall in New York City.

The singers were invited to participate in this event by Dr. Peter Tiboris, general director and artistic director of MidAmerica Productions. The combined choirs sang *Ein Deutsches Requiem* by Johannes Brahms with John Rutter as the conductor.

In addition to hours of intensive rehearsals in preparation for this concert that included learning not only the music, but also the German pronunciation, members of the group had many educational and interesting experiences.

One of these was a performance at the New York City Ballet that began with a "meet the dancer" discussion and tour of the theatre including the hall, the warm up area with dancers warming up for the evening performance, the costume shop, back stage, the stage and the photo gallery.

After the concert, all the participants took a midnight cruise around the Statue of Liberty on the Spirit of New Jersey. As the ship approached Lady Liberty, all the singers on deck sang our National Anthem.

Those participating in this event were **Brooke Bass**, **Ashley Jones**, **Linda Otis**, **Ellen Parker**, **Emily Parker**, **Gretchen Peppers**, **Whitney Radavsky**, **Amber Weaver**, and Northeast's choral director, **Charlene Larson**.



L-R: Emily Parker, Linda Otis, Amber Weaver, Ashley Jones, Whitney Radavsky, Ellen Parker, Brooke Bass.

## Drake Plans Open House

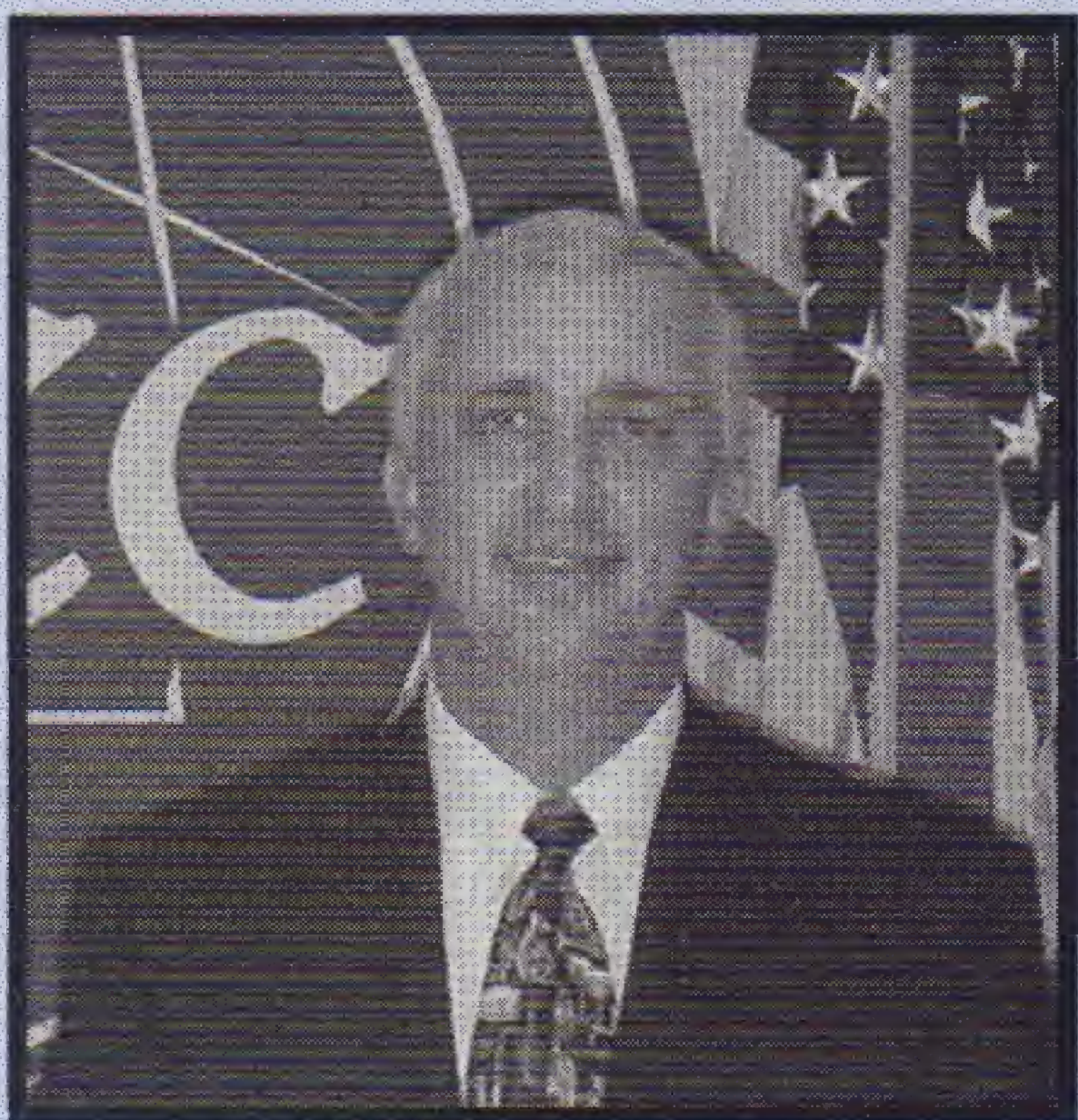
J. F. Drake State Technical College will celebrate the opening of the S.C. O'Neal Sr. Library and Technology Center during a ribbon cutting and open house ceremony this fall semester.

In addition to the volumes of reference materials, the 36,000-square-foot, three-story structure will house classrooms, a lecture hall, an archives room, and administrative offices. The center is named for Drake's first president.

"This will mark the first new building on the campus in over 20 years," stated President **Dr. Helen McAlpine**. "It is something we have all dreamed about, and it is no longer a dream."



# ACA Conference Information



Dr. Jim Prucnal,  
ACA President  
Gadsden State Community College

## President's Message

The Alabama College Association's annual conference is quickly approaching. Plans are already underway to provide employees of the Alabama College System with professional development opportunities that enhance their careers. With each successful year, the ACA annual conference helps to expand the professional development choices of its members.

ACA itself is expanding. Recently new organizations and institutions within the Alabama College System have joined ACA to take advantage of all the benefits membership brings. We welcome as new members Central Alabama Skills Training Consortium and the Alabama Community College Conference. We look forward to having them participate in the conference and invite other organizations to join ACA also.

I also look forward to your participation at our conference. In this edition of the ACA Journal you will find information detailing plans for the upcoming conference scheduled for November 20 through 22 in Birmingham. With our outstanding speakers, valuable workshops, informative commission and association meetings, plus effective exchanges with your fellow system colleagues, this year's conference is certain to not only enrich your life, but expand your opportunities as well.

## 2005 ACA Conference Registration Information

**Registration fee \$155 per person**

***\*\*Special Early Bird Registration Fee\*\****  
**\$130 if registered by October 28, 2005**

***Fee includes three light meals (2 breakfasts and one lunch)***

### **Questions?**

**Contact Registration Coordinator:**  
**Necedah Henderson c/o Athens State University**  
**300 North Beaty Street**  
**Athens, AL 35611**  
**Phone: (256) 233-8217**  
**FAX: (256) 233-6565**  
**Email: [henden@athens.edu](mailto:henden@athens.edu)**

***Registration forms coming to your campuses soon.***  
***Please use one institutional p.o. with your registration form.***

***For updated information on the conference, visit the Alabama College System's website at***  
***<http://www.acs.cc.al.us/>***



# Conference Speakers



## **General Session Speaker —**

***Dr. Roy Johnson, Chancellor, Alabama College System***

"The State of the System"— Dr. Johnson will provide updates, accomplishments, and advancements of the Alabama College System and share the many opportunities the system will face in the future.



## **General Session Speaker —**

***Dr. Malcolm Portera, Chancellor, University of Alabama System***

"A Vision of Cooperation"— Dr. Portera will share his vision for two and four-year institutions working together to benefit students and the state as a whole. This vision includes developmental education, economic development, and unity as equal higher education partners as both work with Alabama's legislature.



## **Commission on Administration/Students Speaker —**

***Dr. Sanford Shugart, President, Valencia State Community College***

"Authentic Service and A New Generation of Students"—The present generation of college students is the first truly post-modern group to encounter college. Their attitudes, world views, and relationships to society and especially institutions, have been profoundly shaped by postmodern mass culture and consumer capitalism. Using music, poetry, and students' own stories, Sandy Shugart will explore these differences, the ways they manifest at the college, and how they challenge our own assumptions about serving students authentically.



## **Commission on Faculty Speaker —**

***Martha Ann Hill, Shelton State Community College***

"Jerks and Buttons: Who's Driving Your Bus?" — A light-hearted look at a serious problem that has a profound effect on every area of society. Learn techniques to successfully recognize and deal with difficult people while maintaining your personal power. Learn to recognize when you are getting into JERKNESS! Avoid being caught up in "road rage," "office rage," and "life rage" by recognizing characteristics of jerks!



## **Commission on Support Speaker —**

***Bonnie Powell, University of Alabama in Birmingham***

"FISH!": This seminar is based on the best-selling book by the same name, and draws lessons from the World Famous Pike Place Fish Market in Seattle. You will discover how to inject fun and energy into work, while increasing motivation and morale. Learn how to use your creativity while building attitudes of trust and teamwork. This humorous and dynamic seminar will help you see your work through "new" eyes.

## **HOTEL INFORMATION**

Call the Birmingham Sheraton Civic Center Hotel directly to make your reservations

(205) 324-5000 or 1-888-627-7095

or make your hotel reservations online at

<http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/alcollege>

**\$75 (plus tax) Double (plus \$10 each additional person)**

To receive the correct rate, be sure to mention you are with the Alabama College Association Conference



## EOCC'S Thompson Named to National Board



Dr. Stafford L. Thompson, President of Enterprise-Ozark Community College, was recently

appointed to a three-year term as a director of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC).

The AACC is the primary advocacy organization for the nation's community colleges, representing more than 1,100 associate degree-granting institutions and some 10 million students. The Board of Directors will focus on six strategic areas: recognition and advocacy for community colleges, learning and accountability, leadership development, economic and workforce development, connectedness across AACC membership, and international and intercultural education.

Dr. Thompson was appointed Interim President of EOCC in September 1994 and President of the College in March 1996.

## Bevill State Breaks Ground on New Center

Bevill State Community College held a groundbreaking ceremony June 6 for the new Pickens County Educational Center in Carrollton.

The ceremony was held at the new location on the site of the former NRV Manufacturing plant, near the existing Carrollton Instructional Site that will continue to offer classes while the new facility is being constructed.

"This is a sign Bevill State is moving forward and is helping those not close to their other campuses," said **Congressman Robert Aderholt**, who has helped secure appropriations for the new facility.

According to BSCC President **Dr. Harold Wade**, construction costs for the 20,000 square foot center will be approximately two million and will amount to an over three million dollar investment in the community once opened. The facility will house classrooms and laboratories, distance education facilities plus a library and conference rooms for use by area residents.

"Bevill State is committed to providing opportunities for the residents of the area, and we are excited to get this building underway," Dr. Wade said. "It is a community effort, and one which we certainly could not have done alone."

## JDCC's Reynolds Has Book Published

**Dr. Mark Reynolds**, Jefferson Davis Community College's Humanities Chair and English Instructor, recently had a book published entitled *The Profession of English in the 2-Year College*. The book is a collection of essays from others who were involved in the evolution of teaching English in community colleges.

"Co-author Sylvia Holladay-Hicks and I realized that those people at the beginning of the community college movement were retiring, and unfortunately, some of them are dying," Reynolds said. "These voices needed to be heard."

Reynolds, the former editor of the national journal *Teaching English in the Two-Year College*, has been a faculty member at JDCC for more than thirty years and plans to retire in August.



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## LBWCC Awarded Title III Grant

Lurleen B. Wallace Community College will receive funding under the Strengthening Institutions Program (Title III) beginning Oct. 1. The award for the first year of the five-year grant is \$365,000, with anticipated total funding of \$1,825,000.

Addressing challenges and opportunities facing the recently merged college, the grant is designed to improve accessibility of programs and services, increase enrollment, and improve retention. The distance-learning program will be developed for maximum student accessibility and compliance with Section 508 Rehabilitation Act requirements.

To increase enrollment, several high-demand programs and courses will be developed through the grant.

Retention components planned in the grant include instructor utilization of students' assessed learning styles to incorporate more effective teaching methods, development of an on-line advising program, a student orientation program, and computer and information literacy modules.

## Southern Union Employee Aids in Tsunami Relief

**Charles McGhee**, Southern Union's MIS Director, recently traveled to the other side of the globe to assist victims of last December's tsunami.

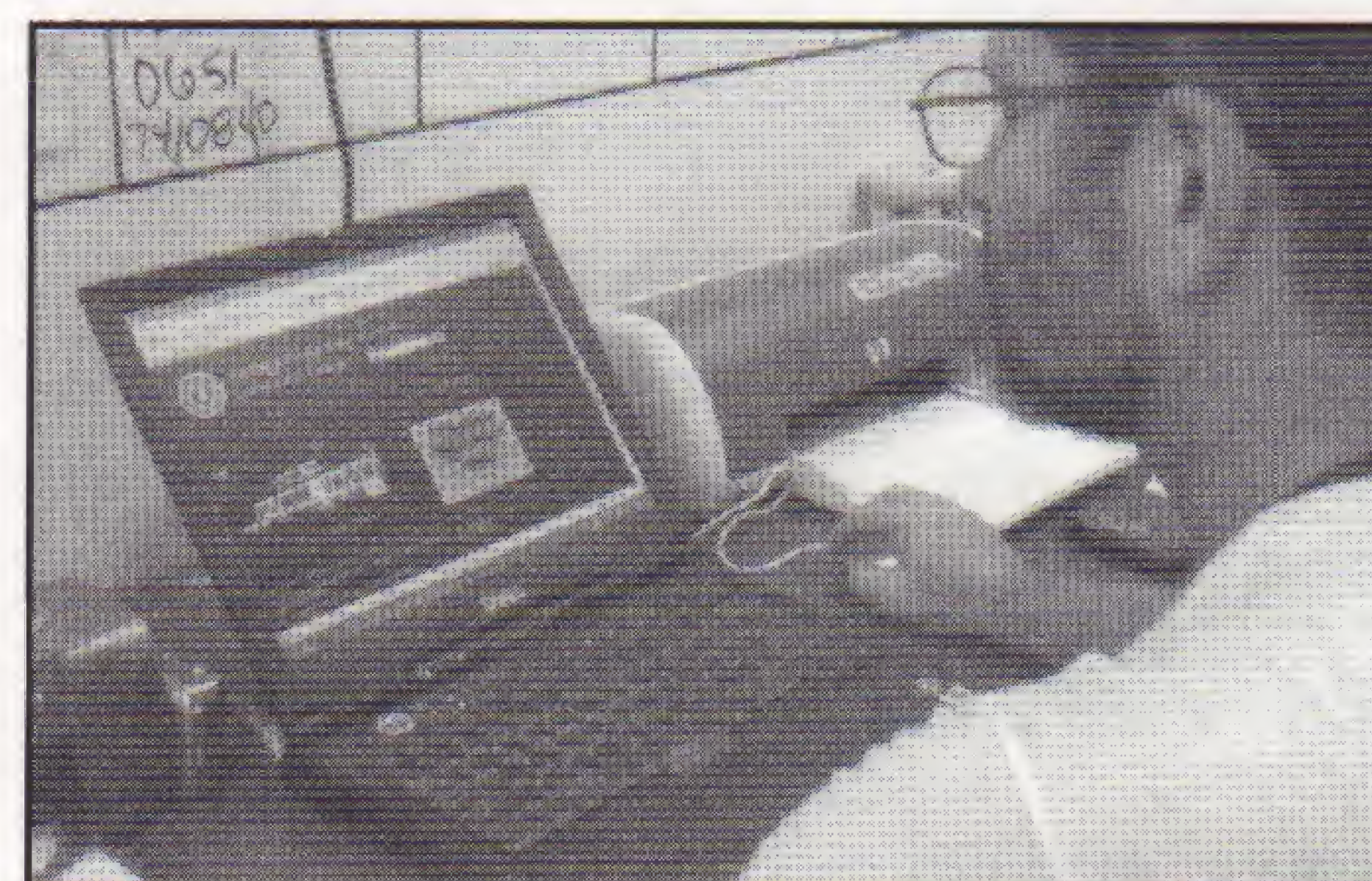
As part of a team coordinated through the Southern Baptist Association, McGhee, along with other volunteers, spent two weeks in Banda Aceh, an Indonesian city of one million people. The city experienced almost total devastation from the disaster.

"The destruction was more than I could have imagined," said McGhee. "The pictures on television don't come close to conveying the reality of the destruction. The devastation is so multi-dimensional. These people lost family members, jobs, stores, homes - everything. For many their life-savings is gone. Everyone we talked to was affected by the tsunami in some way."

While McGhee is no stranger to disaster relief, (prior to this, he traveled to Florida to assist with **clean up** from Hurricane Charlie) this was his first international trip. He said the travel was probably

the hardest part. The 40 hour trip from Atlanta to Indonesia consisted of 20 hours of actual flight time. It took him over the International Date Line and consisted of stops in Los Angeles and Seoul, South Korea before his arrival in Jakarta, Indonesia's capital, and then on to Banda Aceh. But that will not deter him. He said he would go back if needed.

"This is an opportunity to do something that needs to be done. I would like to think that if I were in that situation, someone would do the same thing for me and my family. Sometimes you just have to step up and do the right thing," said McGhee.



*During his recent trip to Indonesia, Southern Union's Charles McGhee, saw that SU is accessible all over the world. McGhee was able to access the college website.*

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the Alabama College  
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## Snead State Hosts Gospel Music Students

Gospel Singers from throughout the United States recently attended the Alabama School of Gospel Music (ASGM) at Snead State Community College.

The ASGM celebrated its 20th year of educating children and adults June 6-17. **Pauline Thompson**, in her second year as Director of Instruction for ASGM, said the school was designed to appeal to everyone by offering classes on various levels of music theory, private instruction in piano and voice, and lessons on conducting.

ASGM offered five levels of music theory instruction starting with the most basic concepts to advanced harmony. Each day, the students spent two hours learning music theory and two hours with sight singing and ear training.

"Sight singing helps them to learn to pick up a new song by sight reading the notes. With the ear training, we teach them to listen for the intervals in the music, and

when they see those, it helps them to make the jump from one interval to another and sing at the correct pitch," said Mrs. Thompson.

Not only were the classes structured to fit the needs of the students, but the schedule was as well. Some of the students attended both weeks of the school while others attended just the first or the second week. Other students attended just the day classes while some came for instruction at night.

The ASGM attracted students from Texas, Tennessee, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, West Virginia, Kentucky, and Arkansas. Students attended classes in Snead State's Music Building, and those who needed overnight accommodations stayed in Pfeiffer Hall. Other students commuted to their classes each day.

"We had one student who drove 50 miles one way every day to come

to the school," said Thompson.

The ASGM instructors also traveled long distances and brought with them a wealth of experience. Among the instructors were **Jack Clark** and **Charles Towler**, both from Cleveland, TN; **Glenn Wilson** from Gainesville, TX; **Becky Walker** and **Natasha Tidmore**, both of Albertville; **Jana Reesor** from Lumberton, MS; **Eloise Phillips** from Roswell, Ga; **Tracey Phillips** from Nashville; **Gene Jeffress** from Crosett, AR; and **Nelson Bailey** from Hendersonville, TN.

"We were honored to host such a group of high caliber instructors and students on our campus for the Alabama School of Gospel Music. The sessions were always well-attended and highly successful. The school instills in the students quality training they carry with them for the rest of their lives," said Snead State President **Dr. Devin Stephenson**.

## Bishop State Selected

Bishop State Community College is one of five U.S. community colleges selected by Johnson Controls, Inc. to participate in CAREERCONNECT, a new collaborative working relationship between select colleges and Johnson Controls, dedicated to training the next generation of HVAC mechanics and technicians.

The goal of CAREERCONNECT is to increase the number of skilled, graduates of HVAC programs entering the workforce.



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## Lawson State Brings Back Baseball

After more than 25 years, Lawson State Community College embraces the long-awaited return of baseball as part of its sports line-up. The college has made significant investments to incorporate the addition of baseball - creating a new team and building a new baseball field.

Lawson State made its initial investment into reviving the baseball program when it began a \$1.3 million project to redesign the baseball field. The construction began in mid-April and is scheduled to be completed in October.

The college has recruited the official baseball team members for the 2005-2006 school year. The young athletes hail from several different areas, including Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Missouri, and Tennessee. The team will be under the leadership of **Randle L. Jennings**, head coach of the baseball program.

Alabama College System Chancellor **Dr. Roy Johnson** and Lawson State President **Dr. Perry W. Ward** were among those present to witness this historical moment in Lawson State's history, and to extend their congratulations to the new recruits.

With 15 years of coaching experience under his belt, Coach Jennings is confident in his players and their abilities. "We just want to be competitive and make our mark the first year," stated Jennings.

## New Building and Community Park Announced for Jefferson State's Shelby Campus

Jefferson State and the City of Hoover recently announced plans for a joint collaboration that will provide a new building on the Jefferson State Shelby Campus and an adjacent community park.

"This effort has been an excellent example of various groups working together to benefit the people of the community," said Jefferson State President **Dr. Judy Merritt**. "The City of Hoover, the Shelby County Commission, and other officials have all worked wonderfully together to make this happen."

Construction for the 120,000 square-foot facility is planned to begin in August and open in 2007. The new building will house additional classrooms, space for the expansion of Jefferson State's nursing program, space for a new kitchen for the culinary arts program, and meeting space.

"Limited space and the continuous growth of the campus were the compelling reasons for purchasing

land from the city of Hoover," said Merritt. "We were in a position where we needed to expand, but we didn't have the land to do it." Since its opening in 1993, student enrollment at the Shelby Campus has increased from approximately 970 students to more than 3200.

Jefferson State will purchase approximately 11 acres from the city of Hoover, and the city will re-direct the money received from the sale into the development of a community park.

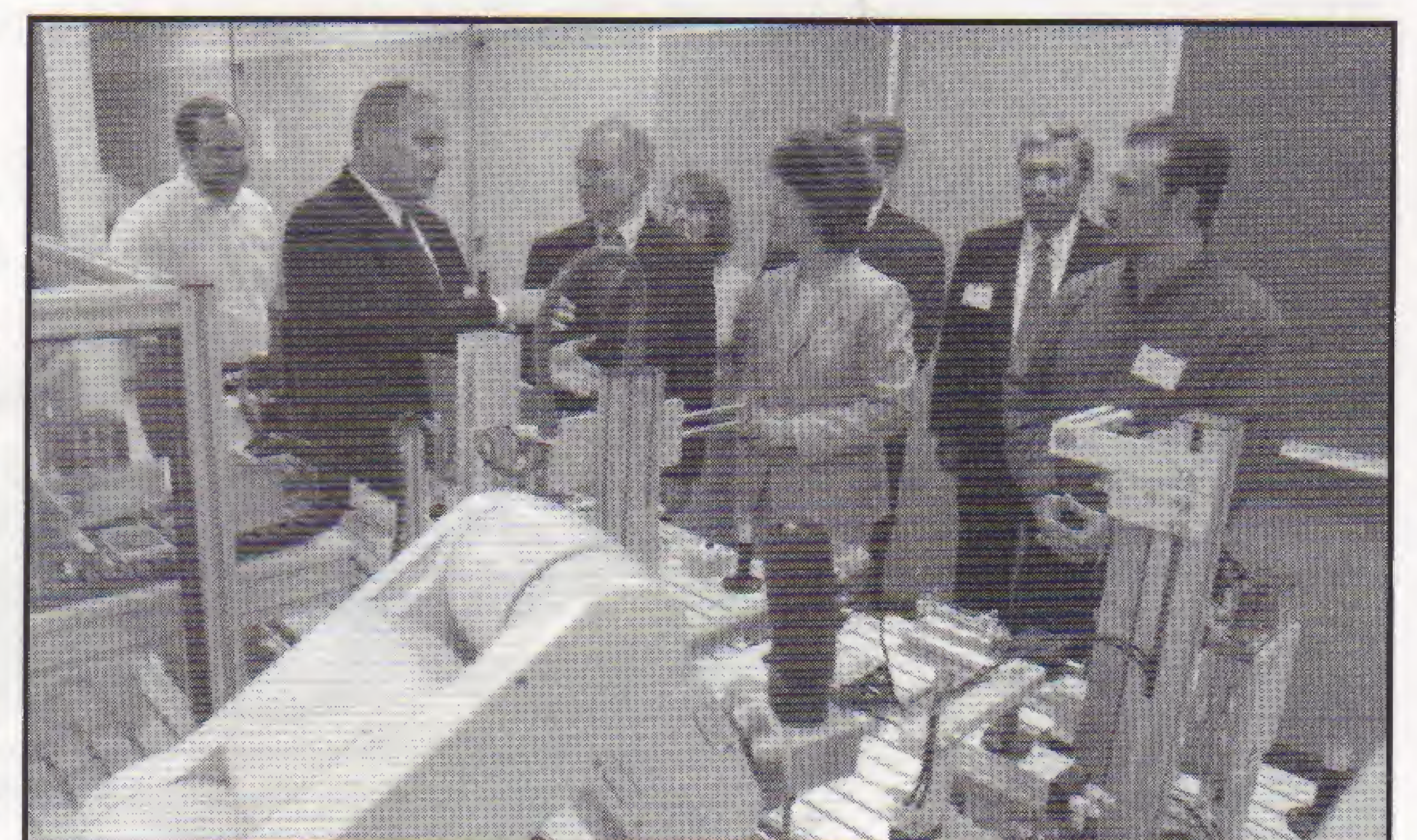
"This will be Hoover's largest park," said **Mayor Tony Petelos**. "With nearby parking at Jefferson State and Spain Park High School, the new park will be an excellent location not only for family gatherings, but for large community events as well."

Park plans include walking tracks around the two lakes on the property, a 5K cross-country running trail, pavilions, playground equipment, and more.

## U.S. Secretary of Labor Visits Shelton

**Elaine Chao**, secretary of Labor visited Shelton State Community College May 5.

During her remarks, Chao commented that the college's Robotic and Electronic lab "is among the most impressive that I've seen and I've seen a lot of very impressive institutions."



Alabama College System Chancellor, Dr. Roy Johnson, explains the need for highly skilled workers to Senator Jeff Sessions, Secretary Elaine Chao, State Board of Education presiding officer, Sandra Ray, Shelton State President Dr. Rick Rogers and Industrial Electronics Instructor, Brett Butler.



## Congressman Secures Funds for NW-SCC Workforce Development Center

**U.S. Representative Bud Cramer** and Northwest-Shoals Community College President **Dr. Humphrey Lee** stood May 2, on the grounds in front of the college's Shoals campus engaged in a press conference with the discussion of President Lee's vision of a large workforce development training center, one which would serve the needs of industries and job-seeking residents.

Congressman Cramer presented a \$1 million check to help make the vision a reality. The money was coupled with \$1.2 million secured in 2004.

According to Lee, "a typical worker changes jobs about five or six times in a lifetime. This facility would help train the worker for a new job, which is something that would benefit the worker and his company," cited the *Times Daily*. It also will provide training for residents looking for work in various fields, he continued. In addition, it will serve as an industry recruiting tool, by providing prospective industries with a facility where future workers could be trained.

This is an example of Northwest-Shoals seeking to fulfill a goal of community colleges to train its local community for jobs that would

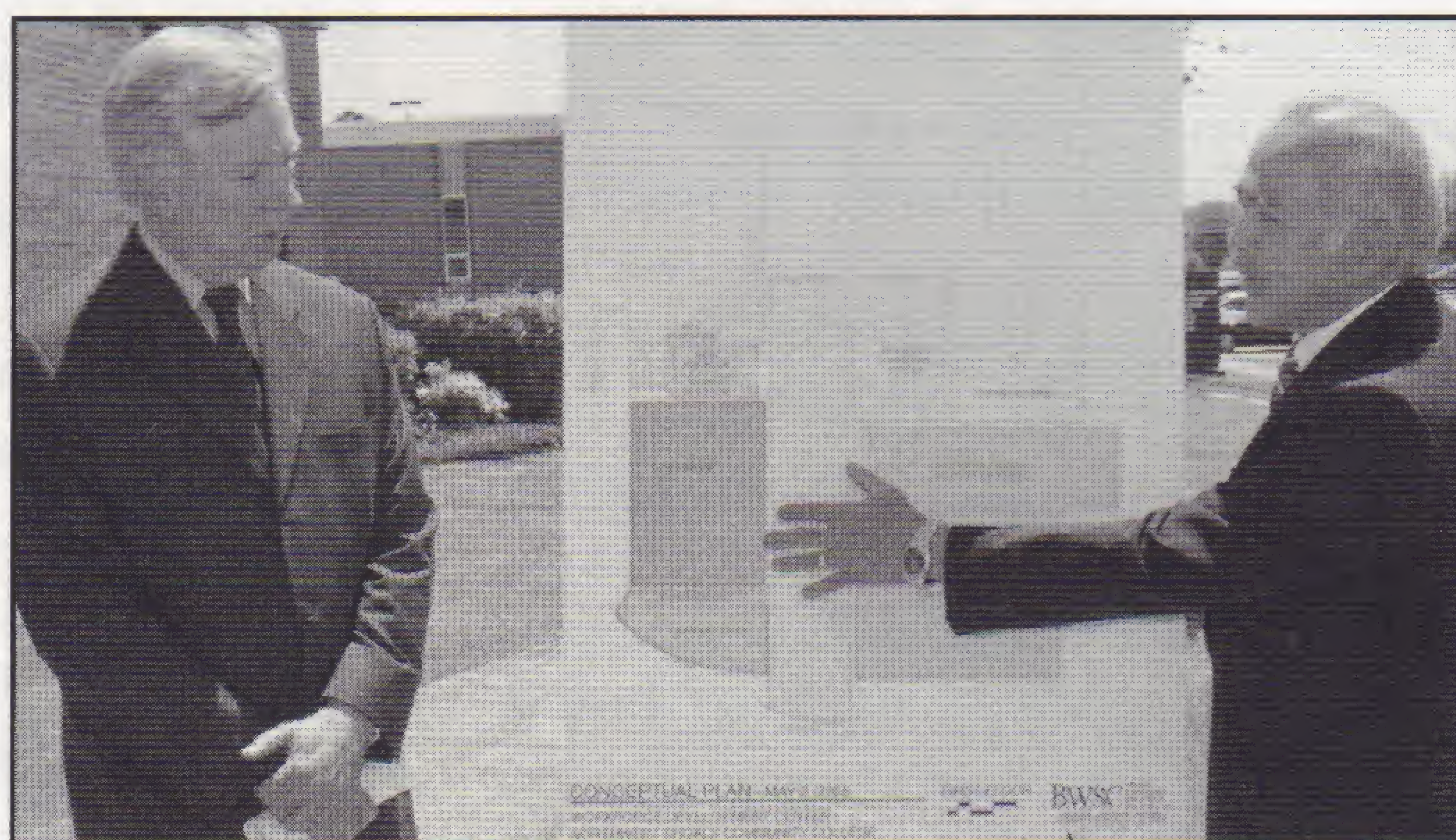
remain in the community, said Cramer in the *Times Daily*. "Industries want to know how you train your job force these days," he added. "Assembly line workers today are doing different things."

Approximately, 900 displaced garment workers have received retraining by means of the college; many of which have used these new skills to become reinstated in the workforce.

The center will include an advising station, interview and meeting rooms, computer labs, admissions stations and other areas designed to assist students and/or industries.

"The Center will be designed with the worker in mind. That includes the actual physical layout of the facility. When someone enters the building, they will be met by a college employee who will guide them through the process, Lee said. "That helps diminish the intimidation of entering the building and not knowing the next step."

Source: *Times Daily*, "Price is Right", May 3, 2005




Congressman Bud Cramer and NW-SCC President Dr. Humphrey Lee discuss the planned workforce development center.

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## Awards, Achievements, and Recognitions

**On the Cover:** Several Alabama College System employees recently completed the requirements for graduation from the Alabama Community College Leadership Academy. Those graduating include: **Kenneth A. Brackins**, Northwest-Shoals Community College; **Gary Branch, Jr.**, Southern Union State Community College; **Mary Beth Brasell**, Alabama Southern Community College; **Sara Brenizer**, Shelton State Community College; **Carl C. Byers, Jr.**, Gadsden State Community College; **H. Jason Cain** and **Fran Davidson**, Lurleen B. Wallace Community College; **Donna R. Estill**, Alabama Southern Community College; **W. Franklin Evans**, J.F. Drake State Technical College; **Dr. Lyn Gill**, Jefferson Davis Community College; **Marian Haynie**, Gadsden State Community College; **Dr. David N. Hodge**, Chattahoochee Valley Community College; **Lynn Ivey**, Wallace Community College; **Dr. Mell Johnson**, Wallace State Community College - Hanceville; **Mike Kennamer**, Northeast Community College; **Janet Kincherlow-Martin**, Calhoun Community College; **Charles Lake**, Faulkner State Community College; **John McIntosh**, Northwest-Shoals Community College; **Barbara Powe**, Bishop State Community College; **Robin Sessions**, Jefferson Davis Community College; **Bridgett Shewmake**, Alabama Southern Community College; **Tomesa Smith**, Wallace State Community College; **Melissa Stowe**, Bevill State Community College; **Teheitha Taylor**, Bessemer State Technical College; **Lorenza Thomas** and **Mark Anthony Whigham**, Lawson State Community College.

Gadsden State Community College President **Dr. Renée Culverhouse** was one of nine Alabama women named as a recipient of the Women of Distinction award, presented annually by the Girl Scouts of Cahaba Council.

**Ann Mantel** of Jefferson Davis Community College had an article published in the June edition of the *Journal of the International Association of Emergency Managers*. The article, entitled "Education and Experiential Preparation of Today's Emergency Managers," focused on planning for recovery in relation to workplace violence.

The Alabama College System Public Relations Association recently elected its 2005-2006 officers at the organization's annual summer conference. Elected to office were **Kay Smith-Foster**, Gadsden State Community College, president; **Chris Franklin**, Lawson State Community College, president-elect; **Wendy Jones**, Shelton State Community College, secretary; **Holly Trawick**, Bevill State Community College, treasurer; **Kristen Jones**, Wallace State Community College-Hanceville, communications chair; **Trent Randolph**, Northwest-Shoals Community College, member-at-large; and **Phyllis Wesley**, Alabama Industrial Development Training, member-at-large. **Sherry Terry** of Bevill State Community College will serve as immediate-past president.

**Ann Caldwell**, executive director of the Miss Southern Union Pageant, recently attended the Miss Alabama Luncheon where she received a pin for 31 years of service to the Miss Alabama Scholarship Program. **Steve Spratlin**, **Tammy Spratlin** and **Dot Wilkinson**, members of the pageant scholarship committee, also received pins in recognition of their years of service.

**Dr. Edward Meadows**, president of Lurleen B. Wallace Community College, has been named to the MATEC (Maricopa Advanced Technology Education Center) National Advisory Board. MATEC is a worldwide leader in education and industry collaboration, supporting the ongoing development of a highly skilled workforce.

**Gladys D. Hill**, assistant Dean of Health Services at Shelton State Community College has been invited by the National Institutes of Health to participate in its Extramural Associates Program Technical Assistance Regional Workshop in September.



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# ***The Alabama College System: Enriching Lives by Expanding Opportunities***

## **November 20- 22, 2005 Birmingham Sheraton Hotel and Civic Center**

### **Tentative Agenda**

#### **Sunday, November 20, 2005**

12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Registration
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Facilitators Workshop
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Association Meetings
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Chancellor's Awards
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Chancellor's Reception

#### **Monday, November 21, 2005**

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Registration
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Vendor Expo
8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.	Light Breakfast Provided
8:20 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.	Newcomers' Meeting
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Workshops
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Vendor Expo/Break
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Opening Session
Dr. Malcolm Portera, Speaker	
12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.	Light Lunch Provided
1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.	Commission Meetings
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Workshops
4:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.	Break/Refreshments Provided
4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.	Workshops
8:00 p.m. - Midnight	Dance

#### **Tuesday, November 22, 2005**

8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Light Breakfast Provided
8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Vendor Expo
8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Workshops
9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Break
9:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Closing Session

Chancellor's Address: Dr. Roy Johnson  
Business Meeting

## ***The Alabama College Association***